



SPAR eNEWS

"Know the Happenings in Shreveport's Public Assembly and Recreation Department" November Issue

Volume I. Issue 6

November 2008

Recreation



On October 31, SPAR held its annual "Not Too Scary" Halloween parties at each of its 15 community centers. The offerings included free games, contests, space-walks, refreshments and a good time had by all in a safe environment.



SPAR has started a Dodge Ball pilot program at 5 centers as part of our after school program. The goal of the program is to have regular league play. There is also the possibility of adult league play.

For more info call 213.0434

Athletics

Our girls' basketball program began on Tuesday, Oct 14 in the 12-Under and 14-Under age divisions. Games are played at Southern Hills on Tuesdays & Thursdays through the end of November. A post season tournament at the conclusion of the regular season is on November 24. The regular season began on November 10. The boy's basketball program kicked off with the coaches' meeting on November 11. The men's adult basketball season began on November 10.

The youth football season playoffs began on November 1 and culminates with the Jr. Independence Bowl on Saturday, November 15 at Independence Stadium when the top two teams from 7 year old flag through 12 year old tackle divisions meet to decide the City Championship. This year's program included 78 teams and over 1800 participants.

For more info call Mary Murphy at 318-673-7776 or Kronski Grigsby at 318-673-7749.

Martial Arts Classes



Master Raleigh Skipper, a 5th Degree Black Belt with 30 years of martial arts experience offers classes at Bill Cockrell Community Center for youth and adults. Master Skipper is National Vice President of the Iron Martial Arts Association (IMAA) and Iron Cage Clash (ICC). Classes include Aikido, Judo, Women's Self Defense, Mixed Martial Arts & Competition Training.

Separate classes are held Monday, Wednesday & Friday for adults and children at Bill Cockrell Recreation Center, 4109 Pines Road. For more information call 318-344-8482.

Youth Programs

In October, Halloween got the attention of the After School Program youth. They were busy decorating their centers and anticipating "scary" parties. However, practicing dodge-ball and taking field-trips to rival centers for league games provided an entertaining vent for all that pent up energy from sitting in school.

Michael Phillips continues to dazzle our students by really simplifying math, while Curtis Johnson brings them up to speed on the computer. Our newest instructor, Debra Acosta, begins her artistic contributions to the After-School program this month with professional coaching in drawing and painting. Just in time because the annual Rose Garden's Christmas Card project is underway.

Registration ends November 17 for the Count Your Blessings Camp, Nov 24-26, 8 am to 6 pm, where movies and games will set the mood for Thanksgiving.

Upcoming Events

Movies & Moonbeams

November 14 - Country & Western Dance (Southern Hills) 5:30 PM

November 21 - Big (Bombay) 6:30 PM

November 24 - December 19 Santa Express Boxes (Mall St. Vincent Dillard's Court & Gov't Plaza 1st Fl)

November 24 - 26 Count Your Blessings Camp (All Centers) 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

November 27 - Thanksgiving
Happy Thanksgiving!



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Photo Contest!



Take A Pic and Win A Tee

Take a fantastic photo of your family, friends and you enjoying a SPAR facility or event and win a T-shirt! Contest open to all except SPAR employees and their family.

Win your t-shirt now!

Email photograph to: frederick.lewis@shreveportla.gov

Include "Photo Contest" in subject along with relevant names, facility and event. Must be 2008 photo.

Santa Express



SPAR has been talking with Santa and has worked out a deal to help kids get their letters to him. The "Santa Express" Mail Service is available from November 24 through December 19 to take children's wish lists directly to the big guy. Just drop your letter (with return address) in one of the "Santa Express" mailbox locations; either inside the lobby of Government Plaza or in Mall St. Vincent, and get a reply directly from ole' Saint Nick himself. For more info call Germaine Williams, SPAR Superintendent at 673-7873

Senior Happenings



Throughout the city Seniors are busy little "bees". At each Center they are starting to make different crafts for Christmas presents. In the computer labs we have approximately 100 Seniors that are surfing the Internet, e-mailing grandchildren, making slide shows, business cards and Christmas cards, etc. And on Tuesday nights the Silver Star Cheerleaders are performing at football games to support the youth. The Seniors are really having a "blast".